

## CLAIMS

1. A computer virus infection information providing method for detecting a computer virus in information transmitted between a terminal apparatus and a central apparatus and providing infection information concerning the detected computer virus, comprising the steps of:

installing anti-virus software on the central apparatus;

storing a communication history of the terminal apparatus;

specifying the time of infection based on the stored communication history when a computer virus is detected by the installed anti-virus software;

transmitting the infection information including the specified time of infection, from the central apparatus to the terminal apparatus; and

displaying the transmitted infection information by using the terminal apparatus.

2. A computer virus infection information providing system for detecting a computer virus and providing infection information concerning the detected computer virus, comprising:

a central apparatus; and

a terminal apparatus connected to the central apparatus via a communication network; wherein

the central apparatus includes a processor capable of performing operations of:

installing anti-virus software;

storing a communication history of the terminal apparatus;  
specifying the time of infection based on the stored  
communication history when a computer virus is detected by  
the installed anti-virus software; and  
transmitting the infection information including the  
specified time of infection, to the terminal apparatus, and  
wherein

the terminal apparatus includes a processor capable of performing  
the operation of  
displaying the transmitted infection information.

3. A computer virus infection information providing system  
according to claim 2, wherein the processor of the central apparatus is  
further capable of performing an operation of registering the time of  
find-out which is the time when the computer virus was found out, and  
wherein

the time of infection is specified based on the stored communication  
history, the registered time of find-out, and the time of installation of the  
anti-virus software which is the time when the anti-virus software was  
installed, when the computer virus is detected by the installed anti-virus  
software.

4. A computer virus infection information providing system  
according to claim 2, wherein the processor of the central apparatus is  
further capable of performing an operation of specifying the route of

infection of the computer virus based on the stored communication history and the time of installation which is the time when the anti-virus software was installed, and wherein

the infection information including the specified route of infection and the specified time of infection is transmitted, to the terminal apparatus, when the infection information is transmitted.

5. A computer virus infection information providing system according to claim 3, wherein the processor of the central apparatus is further capable of performing an operation of specifying the route of infection of the computer virus based on the stored communication history and the time of installation which is the time when the anti-virus software was installed, and wherein

the infection information including the specified route of infection and the specified time of infection is transmitted, to the terminal apparatus, when the infection information is transmitted.

6. A computer virus infection information providing system according to claim 3, wherein the processor of the central apparatus is further capable of performing an operation of transmitting the installed anti-virus software to a predetermined terminal apparatus, wherein

the processor of the terminal apparatus is further capable of performing operations of:

installing the transmitted anti-virus software;

storing an execution history of the installed anti-virus

software; and

transmitting the stored execution history to the central apparatus when a computer virus is detected by the anti-virus software, and wherein

the processor of the central apparatus is further capable of performing the operations of:

- specifying the time of infection based on the transmitted execution history and the registered time of find-out;
- specifying the route of infection of the computer virus based on the transmitted execution history; and
- transmitting the infection information including the specified time of infection and the specified route of infection, to the terminal apparatus.

7. A computer virus infection information providing system according to claim 4, wherein the processor of the central apparatus is further capable of performing an operation of transmitting the installed anti-virus software to a predetermined terminal apparatus, wherein

the processor of the terminal apparatus is further capable of performing operations of:

- installing the transmitted anti-virus software;
- storing an execution history of the installed anti-virus software; and
- transmitting the stored execution history to the central apparatus when a computer virus is detected by the

anti-virus software, and wherein  
 the processor of the central apparatus is further capable of  
 performing a operations of:

specifying the time of infection based on the transmitted  
 execution history and the registered time of find-out;  
 specifying the route of infection of the computer virus based  
 on the transmitted execution history; and  
 transmitting the infection information including the  
 specified time of infection and the specified route of infection,  
 to the terminal apparatus.

8. A computer virus infection information providing system  
 according to claim 2, wherein the processor of the central apparatus is  
 further capable of performing an operation of transmitting advertising  
 information concerning the anti-virus software to the terminal apparatus  
 when a computer virus is detected by the anti-virus software.

9. A computer virus infection information providing system  
 according to claim 3, wherein the processor of the central apparatus is  
 further capable of performing an operation of transmitting advertising  
 information concerning the anti-virus software to the terminal apparatus  
 when a computer virus is detected by the anti-virus software.

10. A computer virus infection information providing system  
 according to claim 4, wherein the processor of the central apparatus is

further capable of performing an operation of transmitting advertising information concerning the anti-virus software to the terminal apparatus when a computer virus is detected by the anti-virus software.

11. An infection information providing apparatus for detecting a computer virus in transmitted and received information and providing infection information concerning the detected computer virus, comprising a processor capable of performing operations of:

installing anti-virus software;

storing communication history of the information;

specifying the time of infection based on the stored communication history when a computer virus is detected by the installed anti-virus software; and

transmitting the infection information including the specified time of infection, to the outside.

12. An infection information providing apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the processor is further capable of performing an operation of registering the time of find-out which is the time when the computer virus is found out, and

the time of infection is specified based on the stored communication history, the registered time of find-out, and the time of installation of the anti-virus software which is the time when the anti-virus software was installed, when a computer virus is detected by the installed anti-virus software.

13. An infection information providing apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the processor is further capable of performing an operation of specifying the route of infection of the computer virus based on the stored communication history and the time of installation which is the time when the anti-virus software was installed, and

the infection information including the specified route of infection and the specified time of infection is transmitted to the outside, when the infection information is transmitted.

14. An infection information providing apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the processor is further capable of performing an operation of specifying the route of infection of the computer virus based on the stored communication history and the time of installation which is the time when the anti-virus software was installed, and

the infection information including the specified route of infection and the specified time of infection is transmitted, to the outside, when the infection information is transmitted.

15. A computer memory product readable by a computer and storing a computer program for detecting a computer virus in transmitted and received information and providing infection information concerning the detected computer virus, the computer program comprising the steps of:

storing a communication history of the information; and

specifying the time of infection based on the stored communication

history when a computer virus is detected by anti-virus software.

16. A computer virus infection information providing system for detecting a computer virus and providing infection information concerning the detected computer virus, comprising:

a central apparatus; and

a terminal apparatus connected to the central apparatus via a communication network; wherein

the central apparatus includes:

means for installing anti-virus software;

means for storing a communication history of the terminal apparatus;

means for specifying the time of infection based on the stored communication history when a computer virus is detected by the installed anti-virus software; and

means for transmitting the infection information including the specified time of infection to the terminal apparatus; and  
wherein

the terminal apparatus includes

means for displaying the transmitted infection information.

17. An infection information providing apparatus for detecting a computer virus in information transmitted to and received from the outside and providing infection information concerning the detected computer virus, comprising:

means for installing anti-virus software;

means for storing a communication history of the information;

means for specifying the time of infection based on the stored communication history when a computer virus is detected by the installed anti-virus software; and

means for transmitting the infection information including the specified time of infection to the outside.